

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. The claims are in the format as required by 35 C.F.R. § 1.121.

1. (Original) A system for continuous purification of a gas flow comprising:
a first sodium fluorine trap coupled to a gas supply line, wherein said gas supply line conducts said gas flow;
a second sodium fluorine trap coupled to said gas supply line in parallel to said first sodium fluorine trap;
a switching mechanism operable to switch gas flow from said first sodium fluorine trap to said second sodium fluorine trap at the occurrence of a predefined event.
2. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said gas flow comprises:
fluorine; and
trace hydrogen fluoride.
3. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said switching mechanism is operable to switch gas flow from said first sodium fluorine trap to said second sodium fluorine trap when said first sodium fluorine trap is approximately saturated.
4. (Original) The system of Claim 3, further comprising:
a first manifold operable to direct said gas flow from said gas supply line to said first sodium fluorine trap; and
a second manifold operable to direct said gas flow from said gas supply line to said second sodium fluorine trap.
5. (Original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising one or more fluorine generation cells, wherein said one or more fluorine generation cells are coupled to said gas supply line and wherein said one or more fluorine generation cells provide said gas flow.
6. (Original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising:
a gas output line coupled to said first sodium fluorine trap and said second sodium fluorine trap; and
an output filter coupled to said gas output line.

7. (Original) The system of Claim 6, further comprising:
a low pressure buffer tank in fluid communication with said first sodium fluorine trap and said second sodium fluorine trap, wherein said low pressure buffer tank is located downstream of said output filter; and
a compressor in fluid communication with and downstream of said low pressure buffer tank, wherein said compressor is operable to compress gas from said low pressure buffer tank.

8. (Original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising:
a low pressure buffer tank in fluid communication with said first sodium fluorine trap and said second sodium fluorine trap; and
a compressor in fluid communication with and downstream of said low pressure buffer tank, wherein said compressor is operable to compress gas from said low pressure buffer tank.

Claims 9-31 (Canceled)

32. (New) The system of Claim 1, wherein said parallel arrangement prevents gas flow between said traps.

33. (New) The system of Claim 1, wherein said switching mechanism is operable to prevent gas flow through a specified one of said sodium fluorine traps at the occurrence of a predefined event.

34. (New) The system of Claim 1, wherein said sodium fluorine traps are coupled to the gas supply line such that each trap is arranged between gas source and fabrication tool.

35. (New) The system of Claim 2, wherein said sodium fluorine traps are coupled to the gas supply line such that each trap is arranged between a respective fluorine generation cell and a fabrication tool, and wherein said trace hydrogen fluoride reacts with at least one of said sodium fluorine traps such that said gas flow into said fabrication tool is substantially free from hydrogen fluoride.

36. (New) A system for continuous purification of a gas flow comprising:

at least one fluorine generation cell, wherein said at least one fluorine generation cell is coupled to a gas supply line, wherein said at least one fluorine generation cell provides said gas flow;

at least two sodium fluorine traps coupled to said gas supply line, wherein said gas supply line conducts said gas flow, wherein said gas flow comprises fluorine and trace hydrogen fluorine, and wherein said at least two sodium fluorine traps are configured in parallel;

at least one manifold operable to direct said gas flow from said at least one fluorine generation cell to one of said at least two sodium fluorine traps; and

a switching mechanism operable to switch gas flow such that gas flow is directed to an operable sodium fluorine trap.

37. (New) The system of claim 36, further comprising:

a low pressure buffer tank in fluid communication with said at least two sodium fluorine traps, wherein said low pressure buffer tank is located downstream of said output filter; and

a compressor in fluid communication with and downstream of said low pressure buffer tank, wherein said compressor is operable to compress gas from said low pressure buffer tank.

38. (New) The system of claim 37, further comprising a gas output line coupled to said at least two sodium fluorine traps and an output filter coupled to said gas output line.

39. (New) The system of Claim 36, further comprising:

a negative pressure bulk storage tank in communication with said at least one fluorine generation cell, and

at least one individual tool compressor in fluid communication with and downstream of said negative pressure bulk tank, wherein said at least one individual tool compressor is operable to compress gas from said negative pressure bulk tank, and to supply, under positive pressure, process gas to at least one fabrication tool.